

Ten Mile Creek Update

Tom Teets, Division Director
Office of Everglades Policy & Coordination
January 14, 2016

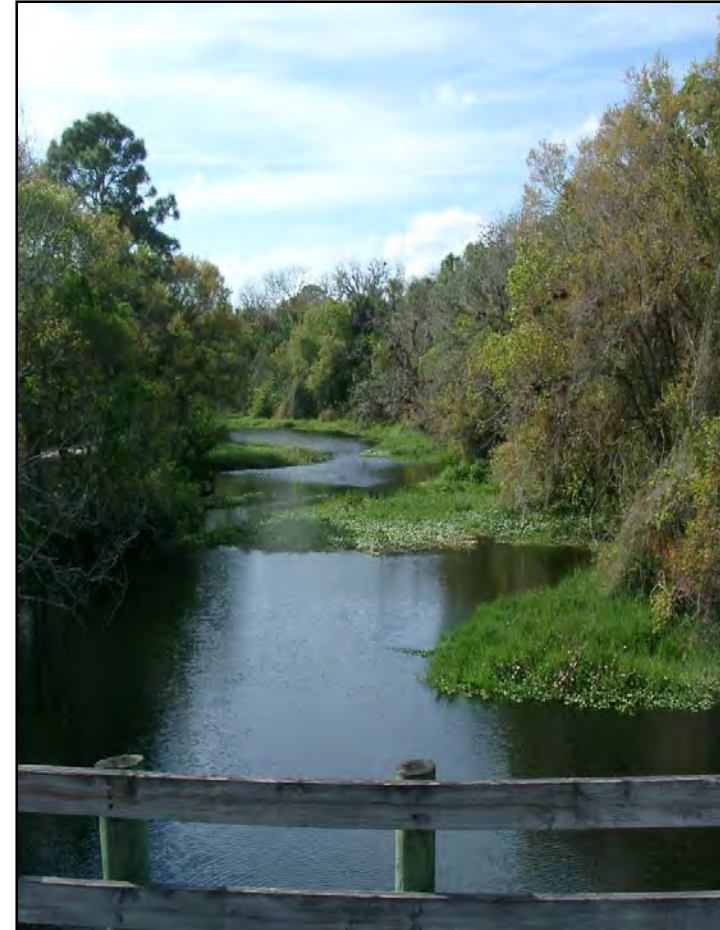
Background

➤ Ten Mile Creek Water Preserve Area (TMC) Project authorized by Congress as a “critical restoration project”

- 550-acre reservoir
- 123-acre stormwater treatment area

➤ Current Operations

- April 2014-December 2015: SFWMD received U.S. Army Corps approval to operate project at depth of one foot
- SFWMD received approval to extend the one-foot operations through calendar year 2016



Project Map

TEN MILE CREEK WATER PRESERVE AREA

A CENTRAL AND SOUTHERN FLORIDA ECOSYSTEM
CRITICAL RESTORATION PROJECT



S382

TMC
Drainage
Basin

The Ten Mile Creek Water Preserve Area represents a significant effort to protect and enhance the water quality within the Ten Mile Creek and the North Fork of the St. Lucie River, while incorporating a number of passive recreational and educational opportunities for the public.

The primary purpose of the water preserve is to serve as a fresh water storage area for excessive water releases currently being discharged at unnatural rates into the St. Lucie Estuary and Indian River Lagoon. These uncontrolled discharges and excessive stormwater runoff are currently degrading the water quality and wildlife of the estuary by radically upsetting salinity concentrations, increasing the deposition of sediments and nutrients, and reducing the amount of freshwater recharge into the aquifer.

In addition to providing an important ecological function, the project provides excellent passive recreation and educational opportunities for the public and acts as a vital link to adjacent greenways and trails. Recreational opportunities include: hiking, camping, fishing, canoeing, nature watching, and horseback riding.



Canal 93

Canal 93

Reservoir
~550 AC

TMC

S383

Treatment Cell
STA
~123 AC

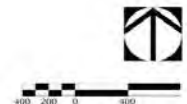
S384

Gordy Road

N. Fork of
St. Lucie
River

I-95

Canal 101



Project Deauthorization

- Consolidated Appropriation Act of 2016
- President signed the Act into law on December 18, 2015
- Requires development of Transfer Agreement within 180 days
- Ten Mile Creek “shall no longer be authorized as a Federal project”
- Will transfer full ownership and responsibility for Ten Mile Creek to SFWMD
- Will require that SFWMD operate Ten Mile Creek as an environmental restoration project with water storage and treatment options



Next Steps

- Develop Transfer Agreement within 180 days
 - Currently under development
- Finalize remediation design measures
 - Remediation will make facility as reservoir able to hold water up to four foot deep
 - Completion of design and authorization for construction is anticipated in May 2016
 - Construction to be initiated after wet season operations end in November 2016
 - Construction cost for this work is estimated at \$7 million



Discussion